

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Patent Application of:
Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
Serial No. 09/197,534
Filed: November 23, 1998
For: LASER PROCESS

)
)
)
)
)

Examiner: William D. Coleman
Group Art Unit: 2823

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

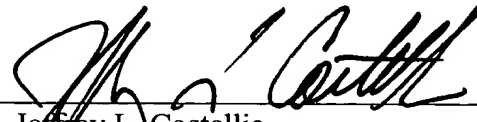
The references cited on the attached PTO-1449 were previously cited by the Japanese patent Office on November 18, 2003 in a counterpart Japanese application. Applicants also want to bring to the Examiner's attention that the English Translations of the cited references will be provided at a later date once they become available to applicants.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



Jeffrey L. Costellia
Registration No. 35,483

NIXON PEABODY LLP
401 9th Street, N.W. Suite 900
Washington, DC 20004-2128
Telephone: (202) 585-8000



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/197,534
				Filing Date	November 23, 1998
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Art Unit	2823
				Examiner Name	William D. Coleman
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740756-1894

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 60-005508 /	01/12/1985	KOICHI		AB
		JP 01-283917 /	11/15/1989	MICHIHIKO		AB
		JP 04-171717 /	06/18/1992	TAKASHI		AB
		JP 57-083745 /	01/01/1982			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.